

# ALASKA POTATO STOCKS

Alaska Division of Agriculture  
Alaska Cooperative Extension  
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NATIONAL  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

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RELEASED March 14, 2001

As of March 1, 2001

All potatoes in storage as of March 1, 2001 totaled 67,000 cwt, down from the 111,000 cwt on hand March 1 a year ago. The five-year average stocks on hand for March 1 totaled 93,700 cwt. Disappearance of the 2000 crop since the start of the harvest to March 1 totaled 62,000 cwt. Comparable disappearance for a year earlier was 74,000 cwt. Disappearance since February 1, was 10,000 cwt, down 9,500 cwt from a year ago and down 5,300 cwt from the 5 year average of 15,300 cwt. Disappearance since January 1 has been 22,800 cwt compared with 35,000 cwt for the same period last year.

**TANANA VALLEY** potato producers had 8,800 cwt in storage March 1, 45 percent of production. Last year, 34,600 cwt of potatoes or 71 percent of production were in storage on March 1.

**MATANUSKA VALLEY** potato stocks totaled 57,800 cwt on March 1, 53 percent of production. Last year, 76,000 cwt or 56 percent of production was in storage on March 1.

**KENAI PENINSULA** growers had 400 cwt in storage on March 1, 40 percent of production. Last year, 33 percent remained in storage.

**15 MAJOR STATES** held a record high 198 million cwt of potatoes on March 1, 2001, up 17 percent from last year and 5 percent above the previous record set March 1, 1997. Potatoes in storage accounted for 43 percent of the 2000 fall storage States' production, up 3 percentage points from a year ago. Disappearance, at a record high 264 million cwt, was up 5 percent from last year and 4 percent above the previous record set during the 1996 season. Potatoes used for processing to March 1 totaled 132 million cwt, up 2 percent from last year and 1 percent above two years ago. February processing of 18.6 million cwt fell 8 percent short of last year for comparable States.

**WESTERN STATES** held 150 million cwt of potatoes in storage on March 1, 2001, up 19 percent from last year and 20 percent above 1999. Washington's potato stocks were up 43 percent from a year ago, while Idaho's stocks increased 15 percent, and Oregon's were up 12 percent. Colorado's stocks were up 1 percent from last year and Montana was up 11 percent. California's potato stocks were down 28 percent from a year ago.

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**POTATO STOCKS - MARCH 1, 2001**

AREA	STOCKS				PRODUCTION		Mar. 1 Stocks as Percent of Production	
	MAR. 1		FEB. 1		2000	1999	2001	2000
	2001	2000	2001	2000				
	----- 1,000 Cwt -----						-- Percent --	
TANANA VALLEY	8.8	34.6	11.1	36.9	19.5	48.8	45%	71%
MATANUSKA VALLEY	57.8	76.0	65.4	93.0	108.5	135.0	53%	56%
KENAI PENINSULA	.4	.4	.5	.6	1.0	1.2	40%	33%
TOTAL	67.0	111.0	77.0	130.5	129.0	185.0	52%	60%

STOCKS ARE DEFINED AS THE QUANTITY REMAINING IN STORAGE FOR ALL PURPOSES AND USES, INCLUDING SHRINKAGE AND WASTE AND OTHER LOSSES AFTER MARCH 1.

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